

Pending Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented) A rotating shearing device for cropping fast-running rolling stock, comprising:

a shearing device frame;

two axially cutting annular knives mounted in said shearing device frame for rotation about respective axes at the same rotational speed, each of said two annular knives having end cutting edges directed toward one another, said cutting edges converging to a cutting position with a clearance necessary to separate the rolling stock during a cutting operation, said two annular knives arranged at an acute angle to one another and intersect one another along a line;

a front guide arranged for guiding the rolling stock to said shearing device frame, said front guide being switchable between an upper end position and a lower end position; and

a rear guide arranged for guiding a first crop of the running stock, the running stock, and a rear crop of the running stock from said shearing device frame, said rear guide having three fixed rear guide parts,

wherein said shearing device frame is movable relative to said rear guide between a lower basic position and a high position, said annular knives being movable to said cutting position in both said lower basic position and said high position of said shearing device frame such that said two annular knives are operable to perform the cutting operation in both said lower basic position and said high position.

2. (previously presented) A method for separating a front crop and a rear crop from a running rolling stock using a rotating shearing device, wherein the rotating shearing device has a shearing device frame, two axially cutting annular knives mounted in said shearing device frame, a front guide arranged for guiding the rolling stock to said shearing device frame, the front guide being switchable between an upper end position and a lower end position, and a rear guide arranged for guiding the rolling stock from said shearing device frame, the rear guide having three fixed rear guide parts, wherein the shearing device frame is movable relative to the rear guide between a lower basic position and a high position, the method comprising the steps of:

introducing a start of the running rolling stock into a free space between the annular knives and into the lower one of the three fixed rear guide parts by the front guide part in an initial state of the rotating shearing device in which the front guide part is in a lower end position, the shearing device frame is in the lower basic position and the annular knives are in the cutting position;

pivoting the front guide part up to a middle position for separating the front crop with the annular knives and discharging the front crop into the lower guide part of the three rear guide parts;

running the rolling stock through the shearing device above the annular knives into the middle guide part of the three rear guide parts after the front guide part is pivoted to the middle position;

opening the annular knives and moving the shearing device frame into the high position such that the running rolling stock discharged from the front guide part in the middle position is in the free space between the annular knives;

closing the annular knives into the cutting position and subsequently pivoting the front guide part upward from the middle position for separating the rear crop with the annular knives and discharging the rear crop through an upper guide part of the three rear guide parts;
and

pivoting the front guide part to the lower end position and moving the shearing device frame back to the lower basic position for establishing the initial state.